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HOUSE BILL 291

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

BEN LUJAN

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES; AMENDING SECTION 10-7-4 NMSA 1978 (BEING LAWS 1941, CHAPTER 188, SECTION 1, AS AMENDED) TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO CONTRIBUTE UP TO ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE COSTS OF GROUP INSURANCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 10-7-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1941, Chapter 188, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"10-7-4. GROUP INSURANCE--CAFETERIA PLAN--CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PUBLIC FUNDS. --

A. All state departments and institutions and all political subdivisions of the state, excluding municipalities and counties, shall cooperate in providing group term life, medical or disability income insurance for the benefit of

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1 eligible employees or salaried officers of the respective
2 departments, institutions and subdivisions.

3 B. Except as provided in Subsection C of this
4 section, the group insurance contributions of the state or any
5 of its departments or institutions, including institutions of
6 higher education and the public schools, shall be made as
7 follows:

8 (1) seventy-five percent of the cost of the
9 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is less than
10 fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000);

11 (2) seventy percent of the cost of the
12 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is fifteen thousand
13 dollars (\$15,000) or more but less than twenty thousand dollars
14 (\$20,000);

15 (3) sixty-five percent of the cost of the
16 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is twenty thousand
17 dollars (\$20,000) or more but less than twenty-five thousand
18 dollars (\$25,000); or

19 (4) sixty percent of the cost of the insurance
20 of an employee whose annual salary is twenty-five thousand
21 dollars (\$25,000) or more.

22 ~~[As used in this subsection, "cost of the insurance" means~~
23 ~~the premium required to be paid to provide coverages.]~~

24 C. Any group insurance contributions of the
25 political subdivisions of the state, except the public schools

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1 or institutions of higher education shall not exceed sixty
2 percent of the cost of the insurance. School districts or
3 institutions of higher education may contribute any amount up to
4 one hundred percent of the cost of the insurance; provided that
5 a school district or institution of higher education shall not
6 contribute less than the amounts set forth in Subsection B of
7 this section.

8 D. As used in this section, "cost of the insurance"
9 means the premium required to be paid to provide coverage

10 [~~C.~~] E. When a public employee elects to participate
11 in a cafeteria plan as authorized by the Cafeteria Plan Act and
12 enters into a salary reduction agreement with the governmental
13 employer, the provision of Subsection B of this section with
14 respect to the maximum contributions that can be made by the
15 employer are not violated and will still apply. The employer
16 percentage or dollar contributions as provided in Subsection B
17 of this section shall be determined by the employee's gross
18 salary prior to any salary reduction agreement.

19 [~~D.~~] F. Any group medical insurance plan offered
20 pursuant to this section shall include effective
21 cost-containment measures to control the growth of health care
22 costs. The responsible public body that administers a plan
23 offered pursuant to this section shall report annually by
24 September 1 to appropriate interim legislative committees on the
25 effectiveness of the cost-containment measures required by this

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subsecti on. "

**State of New Mexico
House of Representatives**

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

February 14, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 291

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel F. Vigil, Chairman

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

HEC/HB 291

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 9 For 0 Against

Yes: 9

Excused: Mi era, Ni cely, Weeks, Vi gil

Absent: None

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

**FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997**

March 3, 1997

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7 **Mr. Speaker:**

8 Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to
9 whom has been referred

10
11 HOUSE BILL 291

12
13 has had it under consideration and reports same with
14 recommendation that it DO PASS.

15 Respectfully submitted,

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19 _____
20 Max Coll, Chairman
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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 8 For 4 Against

Yes: 8

No: Bird, Pearce, Townsend, Wallace

Excused: Abeyta, Buffett, Marquardt, Picraux, Watchman

Absent: None

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 15, 1997

Mr. President:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 291

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Nava, Chairman

**FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997**

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____
(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 5 For 1 Against

Yes: 5

No: Rawson

Excused: Boitano, Duran, Garcia, Gorham

Absent: None

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 18, 1997

Mr. President:

Your FINANCE COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 291

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben D. Altamirano, Chairman

Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

Yes: 6

No: None

Excused: Aragon, Carraro, Ingle, McKibben, Romero

Absent: None

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Underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~